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The Ohio Independent Baptist

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June 1991 (Vol. 64, No. 4)

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# The OIB

## The Ohio Independent Baptist

The Newsletter of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

Vol. 64 No. 4

June 1991



Historic Indianapolis Union Station, with its 70 shops under one roof.

## Come to Indianapolis — and Bring the Family!

**M**

ind-stretching workshops, inspirational Bible teaching, Youth Fest '91, and an Amazon adventure program for the children—all part of the 60th Annual Conference of the General Association

of Regular Baptist Churches. Join several thousand Regular Baptists at the Indiana Convention Center & Hoosier Dome June 24-28, and catch a "Vision for the 21st Century."

You'll be blessed by men of God like David Bower, Russ Ebersole, David Marks, John Greening, and Paul Tassell,

among others. "The Christian and Prudent Investments" and "Baby Boomers Impacting the Church" are just two of the workshops from which to choose. And your children and teens will profit from the programs planned especially for them.

You'll also have the opportunity to be part of a telemarketing program reaching thousands of Indianapolis area homes.

In your free time, plan to explore this beautiful, fascinating city, twice named the "cleanest city of its size." The Children's Museum is the world's largest; the zoo houses 500 different animals and

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the world's largest whale and dolphin pavilion. Conner Prairie, a unique living history museum, will take you back to the 1800s, and beautiful Union Station, now with 70 shops under one roof, looks much the same as when completed in 1888. Trolleys, horse and carriage rides, superb restaurants and convenient shopping help to make the city of Indianapolis a great place to visit.

For more information, call or write Pastor Jim Cook  
Bethesda Baptist Church  
7950 N., 650 E.  
Brownsburg, IN 46112  
317-852-3101





Hats off to Grace Community Baptist, Washington Court House. On Friend Day, April 28, many visitors joined the church family for an attendance of 98. Dr. Robert Gromacki is pastor of the church, which was one year old April 15.

Mrs. Frances Griffith went to be with the Lord April 6. Fran and her husband, Walter, were ABWE short-term missionaries to Bangladesh from 1975-77, and were active in Baptists for Life and Grace Baptist, Cedarville.

## Having an Impact on Ohio



**Larry Fetzer**  
State Representative

This month's column is written by Pastor Joel Harriman, New Richland Baptist, Belle Center. Harriman is the new chairman of the Task Force on Church Planting.

**H**ow many new churches have been started in Ohio in the past two years? Four years? Six years? We've talked about it — a lot! Many of us have had good ideas and good intentions. So, why so few results?

This is one of those things that is everyone's job and yet is nobody's job. All too often those good ideas and good intentions have just fallen through the cracks for lack of anyone to follow through.

The Task Force on Church Planting has recommended that the Ohio Association hire a second man to develop and implement a church planting program that is local church generated and yet coordinated. At the OARBC Annual Conference in Chillicothe, our churches voted to allow the Council of Twelve to pursue the implementation and financing of this recommendation, and to present it for approval at the 1991 conference.

The first order of business is to determine a budget for the new church developer position. The budget, which will include both salary and expenses, needs to be modest enough to be reachable, yet sufficient to get the job done. When a specific figure is approved by the Council of Twelve, the process of informing churches will begin. We hope to encourage churches to commit a significant portion of the needed money before our next annual meeting.

Future articles will detail the need for church planting in Ohio and the approach a new church developer will take to accomplish his goals.

## Hitching Post Welcomes Huntsburg's Amish Neighbors



**N**ot every church needs a hitching post, but Huntsburg Baptist does, according to its pastor, William Beck. Located in the heart of Ohio's largest Amish community, Huntsburg Baptist is always looking for ways to reach its old order neighbors. By far the most effective is inviting Amish young people to use the church's gym.

People at Huntsburg know first-hand about reaching Amish; nearly 75 per cent of the congrega-

tion have Amish ties. And most of them were introduced to the Gospel when they were young. [See accompanying story of Deacon John Miller's salvation] "You have to reach them when they're young," says Pastor Beck. "Once they join the Amish church, which they do in their twenties, it's very difficult."

Beck describes the Amish as "good people, extremely loyal, with a strong sense of community." But, he says, believers either forget that the Amish are lost, ("Theirs is a redemptive society—they believe if they stick to old ways, they might get to heaven."), or say you can't witness to the Amish because they won't listen.

But little by little, step by step, Huntsburg's sports outreach is sowing the seed of God's Word. The young people come to play basketball, some men from the church show up to play alongside, and the Lord opens the door for sharing about Christ. Huntsburg Baptist has grown about 100 people in the past four years. "You can see God is working in this community," says Pastor Beck.

About that hitching post: "It probably won't get used that much," Beck reflects, "but it will be a sign to the Amish that we care about them."

**J**ohn Miller grew up going to church every two weeks, as is the Amish custom. But in all his years of going to church, he never heard about salvation or eternal security.

At 18, John began drinking and staying out late. "When I was 21 I got a car," says John. "It was against the rules, but my parents let me live at home anyway, hoping I'd come around. But I didn't. All I wanted to do was play ball, run around in my car, and drink. When I was 27 I met Carolyn, who was divorced with three children. After we were married, somebody invited her kids to Huntsburg Baptist. I didn't mind, but there was always something else for me to do on Sunday mornings. Then our oldest son was saved and started talking about getting baptized. I didn't like the idea of his joining a church I didn't know anything about, so one Sunday Carolyn and I went.

I still remember the day Pastor Beck came to call on us. I had just come home from work and was all dirty and tired. He could see it wasn't a good time, and didn't stay long. But he said he'd be back. Well, I knew what the pastor wanted, and I knew what I had to do. And when he came back, I was ready. That night Carolyn and I trusted Jesus Christ to be our Savior.

We've been married six years now, and we thank God every day for our salvation. It really hurts to think about the Amish being lost. They're such good people, but not many of them know the Lord as Savior. But some of my family have trusted Christ, and now they know they are going to heaven.

The sports idea at the church is really a good thing. Some of them are going to get saved."





Emmanuel Baptist, Toledo, will host the 1991 OARBC Conference October 21-23. GARBC National Representative Paul Tassell will be the main speaker.

## DID YOU

return the O.I.B. mailing list coupon from the April issue? Help us save your association money!

## Ohio Winners Announced



First place winners left to right: First row: Amanda Whitmer, Kimberly Quick, Sandra Matson, Kara McGinnis, Krissy McKim. Second row: Jenny Hines, Eric Anderson, Kelly Peters, Mark Jones.

Cedarville College was the site of this year's Talents for Christ contest. Representing 28 of our Ohio Association churches, 68 teens participated in such areas as male and female voice, male and female speaking, piano, brass, woodwinds, strings, writing, and Bible knowledge. First place winners receive a \$400 scholarship to any GARBC approved college and the opportunity to participate in the National Talents for Christ contest this June in Indianapolis. Second place winners receive a \$200 scholarship.

This year's first and second place winners are:

**Piano**-Eric Anderson, Southgate Baptist/Springfield (1st); Mia Crecco, Lakeview Baptist/Dundee (2nd)

**Female Voice**-Krissy McKim, Faith Baptist/Greenville (1st); Lori Anderson, Southgate Baptist/Springfield (2nd)

**Male Voice**-Mark Jones, Faith Baptist/Mount Vernon (1st); Jamie Miller, Immanuel Baptist/Columbus (2nd)

**Woodwinds**-Sandra Matson, Grace Baptist/Cedarville (1st); Nathema Kanani, Graham Rd Baptist/Cuyahoga Falls (2nd)

**Strings**-Amanda Whitmer, First Baptist/Bowling Green (1st)

**Bible Knowledge**-Jenny Hines, First Baptist/Strongsville (1st); Paul Streetman, Calvary Baptist/Chillicothe (2nd)

**Writing**-Kara McGinnis, Southgate Baptist/Springfield (1st); Philip Wittmer, Grace Baptist/Canton (2nd)

**Female Public Speaking**-Kimberly Quick, First Baptist/Elyria (1st); Heather Maidment, Grace Baptist/Troy (2nd)

**Male Public Speaking**-Kelly Peters, Southgate Baptist/Springfield (1st); Mickey Detrick, Grace Baptist/Troy (2nd)

## Cedarville College News

Memorial Day Chapel, 11 a.m. on May 27, is a special event on the Cedarville College campus. Guests are welcome to share with the college family a celebration of God's working in America. This year's Memorial Day chapel service will publicly recognize the heroic efforts of many Persian Gulf veterans. Special guests for the service (which will be rebroadcast at 8 p.m.) include Major Tim Foley, assistant director of the US Marine Band, and Alan Boykin, an outstanding soloist from Wright Patterson Air Force Base. The patriotic program of music and drama includes a time to recognize military personnel and veterans in the audience. Uniforms are appreciated but not necessary. At 7:30 p.m., the Symphonic Band presents a concert of patriotic music on the Chapel lawn. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the Chapel.

A new three floor, 68,000 square foot laboratory, classroom, and office building will adjoin the current 27,000 square foot Science Center, giving Cedarville College students one of the best and largest facilities of its kind among independent colleges.

The new building will benefit the Science and Mathematics program by nearly doubling the existing biology and chemistry laboratory and classroom space, as well as adding additional faculty offices and conference rooms. The Nursing Department will gain needed clinical, audio-visual, and computer laboratories, class and conference rooms, and faculty offices. The Engineering Department will acquire mechanical and electrical engineering laboratories, a Computer Assisted Design (CAD) laboratory, classrooms, and faculty offices.

There will be faculty and student lounges, an attractive entry, and handicapped accessibility. The interior has been designed to foster the close faculty-student interaction characteristic of a Cedarville education.

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**OIB news deadline  
for July-August issue:  
June 10**



Layne Turner, Abbe Road Baptist in Elyria, has been selected by Cedarville College to be part of an 18 member team to visit mainland China in June. The team, invited by the Chinese government, will visit universities in Beijing and Shanghai, and will have opportunities to share their faith there.

## Across the State



Pastor  
Tony Beckett

### Streetsboro

After 7 1/2 years at **Faith Baptist**, God has led Tony Beckett to the pastorate of Heritage Baptist, Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania.

While pastor at Faith, Tony served 2 terms on the Council of Twelve, and was chairman of the Task Force for Church Planting of the OARBC. In addition, he was a trustee of Camp Patmos, a member of the board of directors of Baptists for Israel, and past chairman of Akron Area Baptist Pastors Fellowship. Pastor Beckett's resignation was effective May 26.



Jack and  
Glenna  
Wiltheiss

### Valley City

Dr. Jack Wiltheiss concluded his ministry at **First Baptist** on April 28, after having ministered there for 24 years. Under his leadership the church was organized, land was purchased, and a building constructed. Besides supporting home and foreign missions, the church has a bus outreach to the entire area of Valley City. Dr. Wiltheiss will be available to other churches for Bible conferences, revivals or pulpit supply.



Pastor  
Paul Reimer,  
Debbie, Aaron,  
Andrew, Benjamin  
and Michael

### Newark

On May 12, Paul Reimer began his ministry as pastor of **Bible Baptist Church**. Paul, a graduate of Faith Baptist Bible College, is continuing his studies at Trinity Theological Seminary. He has had training in biblical counseling from Faith Baptist Counseling Center in Lafayette, Indiana, and is a certified counselor with the National Association of Nouthetic Counselors. For 15 years, Paul has been minister of education and visitation at First Baptist in Findlay. He and his wife, Debbie, have four boys.



Side view of Millersburg Baptist showing new wing.

### Millersburg

April 28 was dedication Sunday for the congregation of **Millersburg Baptist**, as they rejoiced in the completion of an education wing and a renovated auditorium, as well as extensive exterior work. State Representative Larry Fetzer brought the dedication message. During the period since September 1990, when their "Little White Building" was demolished, services were held at other locations in the area, including Skyview Ranch.

### Elyria

**Abbe Road Baptist** held its fourth School of Puppetry on May 3, with 150 people in attendance. The three and a half hour school offered instruction in several puppet related subjects, including basic puppetry, rod-arm puppetry, solo puppetry in the classroom, and organizing your own puppet show.

### Johnstown

**Johnstown Independent Baptist Church** has called Drew Walther to its pastorate. Drew, a graduate of Pensacola Christian College and Grace Theological Seminary, formerly pastored Harmony Hill Baptist Church in New Matamoras, Ohio. While there he led the church through a major building program, with a new auditorium and renovations valued at \$350,000. Drew and his wife, Sherry, along with Sarah, Joshua, and Ruth, began their ministry at Johnstown on April 21. The Johnstown church is northeast of Columbus in a high growth potential area. The church has a strong AWANA ministry.



Missionaries Stan  
and Jean Holman

### Toledo

It's sort, sell, pack and store time for retiring ABWE missionaries to the Philippines, Stan and Jean Holman, who are members of **Emmanuel Baptist**. They comment, "We really feel that we are at the end of an era. The Tabers are the only other missionaries on the field who have experienced travelling on a ship. We are called the 'boat missionaries.'" The Holmans, whose recent days have been filled with goodbyes to those whom they've loved and served for many years, returned to the States early in May.



Faith Baptist of Kenton reports breaking the "100 barrier," averaging over 100 in attendance at the morning worship services during March and April.



## IN THE NEWS

# MVPs

needed for Skyview Ranch. Most valuable pray'ers needed for Skyview Ranch to help change the lives of ranchers this summer! (See page 7 for details.)

### Mount Vernon

"Ambassadors of Peace in Challenging Times" was the theme of Faith Baptist's World Missions Conference April 7-10. Participating in the conference were Steve Fulks, Baptist Mid-Missions, Peru; Richard Rich, BMM, Japan; and Earl and Marilyn Shaffer, Evangelical Baptist Missions home missionaries, Good Shepherd Baptist Church in Sidney. Wednesday evening teen night featured a panel discussion by the missionaries on the theme, "Knowing God's Will for Your Life." The church reports that significant decisions were made every night. The average week-night attendance was 109.



First row, left to right, Pastor Ken Spink, Mrs. Doris Tassell, Dr. Paul Tassell, Pastor George Pease  
Second row, Pastors Wilbur Parrish, Wallace Larson, musician Daniel Bergen

### Strongsville

Pastor Wilbur Parrish of First Baptist reported on the sixth annual Bible conference held by Berea Baptist, Berea; First Baptist, Parma; First Baptist, Strongsville; First Baptist, Brunswick; and Beebetown Baptist, Brunswick, held March 10-13.

Dr. Paul Tassell, national representative of the GARBC, was the speaker. He preached on the theme, "Ministry Guidelines for Crisis Times." Special musicians were Eric Hawout of Niles, Ohio, and Daniel Bergen, of Cincinnati. The children attended special programs each night, and on Tuesday the women enjoyed a special program of music, crafts, and speaker, Mrs. Doris Tassell.

The pastors of the cooperating churches encourage other churches to hold similar joint meetings where it is geographically possible.



Mr. Kevin Brock, Melissa and Nathaniel

### Columbus

Mr. Kevin Brock has been called to serve as the administrative pastor of Maranatha Baptist. He will be assuming the position in July, upon completion of his contract as administrator of Maranatha Christian School.

Kevin, who has a B.S. from Cedarville College and a M.R.E. from Grand Rapids Baptist College, comes to the position with unique preparation, having served in the church and school ministry at Maranatha for 15 years. He is a son of Maranatha's founding pastor, Dr. William Brock.

Kevin and his wife, Melissa, have a son, Nathaniel.



Assistant Pastor George Blackmore, Kathy, Brian, and Sheri Ann

### Pickerington

George A. Blackmore, Jr. has come to Berean Baptist Church to serve as assistant to pastor George Keith. A graduate of Bob Jones University with a B.A. in Bible and an M.A. in church administration, his primary responsibilities will be in the areas of music and outreach. Both George and his wife, Kathy, are musicians.

The Blackmores have two children, Brian and Sheri Ann.

## Position Available Director for Public Relations Cedarville College

The Director for Public Relations provides creative leadership in representing the College to its various publics. Areas of accountability include publications, advertising, media relations, graphics, and photographic services. The public relations staff includes four professionals plus student associates.

The successful candidate should have an appropriate degree and understanding of marketing and substantive professional experience in the areas of accountability. S/he will be able to understand and relate effectively to the college's internal and external publics and will enthusiastically support the college's mission, doctrinal position, lifestyle preferences and advancement.

Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Applications, nominations and inquiries should be addressed to

Dr. Martin E. Clark  
Vice President for Development  
Cedarville College  
PO Box 601  
Cedarville, OH 45314-0601

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## Dear Ladies,

The evening after the state meeting, I read the following verse: "O, Lord, thou art my God; I will exalt Thee; I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things..." (Isaiah 25:1). Then the tears came. Tears of gratitude and tears of joy for the "wonderful thing" God had done through you precious women here in Ohio!

In December I could see no way we could possibly reach our \$6,000 project goal. Knowing we would be without our OIB for a few weeks, we officers began praying faithfully and earnestly that the Lord would help keep this project in your minds and hearts.

Did He hear and answer those prayers? YES, HE DID! Our final total: \$8,000! To God be the glory! To you dear ladies, the promise in Hebrews 6:10: "God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shewed toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister."

In His love,  
Sue Miller,  
OWMU President

1750 Flinthill Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43223  
614-875-4128

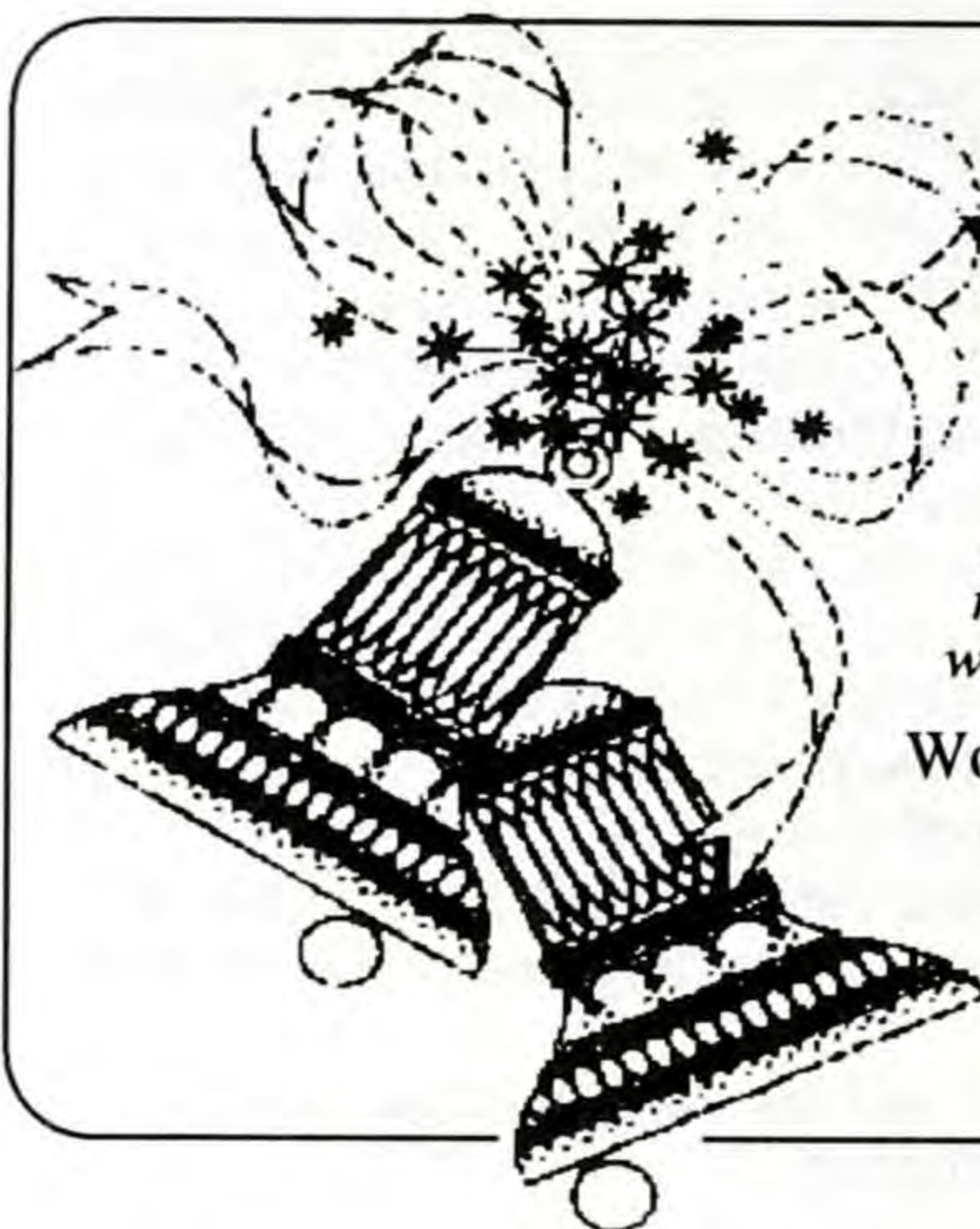
## Women Gather for Ohio Missionary Union Meeting

On April 16, women from all over Ohio came to Maranatha Baptist in Columbus for the annual Ohio Women's Missionary Union rally. All nine area fellowships were well-represented, and the church was full.

The morning session centered around the 1990-91 theme, "For Love of the MKs." Kari Zentz, ABWE appointee to Japan, shared from her heart her concerns for her children, who are now MKs. Merle Brock then gave ideas to encourage MKs and to make missions a priority for our own children. A special slide presentation by Sean Morgan, an eight year old MK, closed out the session and theme.

The afternoon began by introducing the new theme and the new project, a commercial dishwasher for Skyview Ranch. To emphasize the importance of the new theme, Kari Zentz related how God had used camp ministries in her own Christian experience.

After her daughter Pollyanna's testimony, Barb Eash, BMM, spoke from Isaiah on "Compassion in Victory."



### Salt Fork Ladies Fall Retreat November 7-8

Speaker: Mrs. Pat Warren

*Jesus, the Bridegroom, is wooing His bride and someday soon will be escorting her to the marriage supper. In anticipation of this happy event, let us review the fascinating account of a believer's courtship, wedding, and life after the honeymoon.*

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For more information, contact Brown Street Baptist Church, 541 Brown St., Akron OH 44311

## North Bethel Spring Rally

ABWE appointee to Chile Nikki Russell was the morning speaker at the North Bethel WMF Rally at Riley Creek Baptist in Bluffton. Nikki shared with the women her story of being afflicted with a nerve attacking disease, polyneuritis, and of how God worked to heal her.

New North Bethel officers are: President, Barb Love, Stryker; Vice President, Fran Cass, Riley Creek; Secretary/Treasurer, Pauline Cogan, Wauseon; and Assistant Secretary, Janette Kidd, Jenera.

### OARBC Ladies Retreat at Skyview Ranch

September 19-21

Theme

"In Praise of God's Word"  
Psalm 119

Speaker

Mrs. Ruth Wagner

Cost

\$34 (2 overnights & 5 meals)  
\$10 deposit due with registration  
horseback riding \$3 extra

Send registrations to

Betty Mullett  
Millersburg Baptist Church  
685 S. Washington St.  
Millersburg, OH 44654

### Scioto Hills Fall Retreat September 5, 6, & 7

#### Declaring God's Mighty Acts ...from Generation to Generation

Speakers

Mrs. Marea Smith and daughter,  
Mrs. Cynthia Millard

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Cost

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Memorial Baptist Church  
2435 Eakin Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43204



# Keeping Up With Our Camps

## Patmos

**G**et your registrations for camp in soon!

Write or call Pastor Eric Struble  
P.O. Box 308  
Amherst, OH 44001  
216-988-8255

### Camp Schedule

June 17	Junior	Steve Worth
June 24	Jr Hi	Phil Betz
July 1	Family	Tom Wright
July 8	Sr Hi	Ken Rudolph
July 15	Junior	Tim Pasma
July 22	Jr Hi	Mike Patterson C.O.M.E.
July 29	Junior	Kevin Boggs
Aug 5	Family	John Street

## Scioto Hills

**S**cioto Hills men's retreats were GREAT! The messages from Cedarville College's Dr. Drullinger on "Finishing the Course" had a great spiritual impact on the men. Washington Heights, Dayton had the most men in attendance (34). Vick Kellum from Columbus won the sledge hammer throw with a throw of 41 feet. Dr. Robert Gromacki will be our speaker next year, and in '93, Dr. Wendell Kempton.

**There's still time to sign up for camp!**

**Sr Hi Camp -- Basic Training**  
Ken Rudolph, July 1-6  
(new program)

**Jr Hi Camp -- Survival of the Witness**  
Fred Hand - June 10-15  
Ken Gentzler - July 8-13  
(new program)

**Junior Camp -- One by One in '91**  
Alvis Pollard - June 17-22  
Jim Sperry - June 24-29  
Byron Shearer - July 15-20  
Lee Fulmer - July 22-27

VBS or Sunday School projects for Scioto Hills: teepee, new mattresses, heavy-duty volleyball nets, volleyballs, basketballs, etc.

## Skyview

**G**od's provision is always amazing and makes the Ranch a growing, successful ministry. Due to donations of materials and volunteers at the men's retreat and Men for Missions groups, the Ranch will be a better place this summer. Four girls' cabins porch roofs were renovated this spring, and an all new super slide has been installed. Because of a special gift, a new Roland electric keyboard will enhance the music program in the chapel.

Workers are always needed. Groups and individuals are encouraged to contact us. Youth groups can provide the Ranch with much-needed help. Retired people and adult groups can take on a variety of projects.

With summer programs starting, we would appreciate prayer warriors helping the Ranch be effective in challenging ranchers to commit themselves to Christ. Pray for:

ranchers to make salvation decisions.  
ranchers to commit themselves to service.

ranchers to be challenged to leadgodly lives.

ranchers to see the love of Christ through the staff.

the health and safety of staff and ranchers.

the effective ministry of the Ranch staff (14 college-age counselors, 6 supervisors, 16 high school age support staff).

Please send us a note of encouragement this summer to let the staff know you are praying.

## Baptists for Life

will sponsor a mini-conference, "The Church, the Pro-Life Movement & You," on Monday, June 24, preceding the annual GARBC Conference. The conference will be held at the Omni Severin Hotel, near the convention center. Four one-hour sessions begin at 10 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m., and will cover topics such as "Issues in Death and Dying," "Biblical Separation and the Pro-Life Movement," "The Role of the Church in Sexuality Education," and "The Role of the Pastor in the Pro-Life Movement." There is no charge for attending the mini-conference.

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## Westside Baptist Christian School

(K-8), established 1975 with present enrollment of 161 (A-Beka Curriculum) seeks upper and lower elementary teacher for 1991-92 school year.

Send resume' to

Mrs. Jacqueline Montgomery  
Westside Baptist Christian School  
9407 Madison Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44102

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Elyria OH 44036  
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## Try This in Your Church

# Ideas That Work!

### Shut-in Ministry

Pastor Max McCullough of Grace Baptist, Canton, says they place a phone with speaker and receiver in the middle of a prayer circle on Wednesday nights. When the prayer time begins, a deacon will call one of the church's shut-ins and tell them they are being heard by the entire prayer group. He will lead in prayer for the shut-in, then invite the listener to stay on the phone for the remainder of the group's prayer time. Pastor McCullough notes that, "This has really been a blessing to our regulars as well as those not able to attend. It draws our people closer together and helps our shut-ins not to feel so alone."

### Widows Committee

The Bible Baptist Church of North Madison has initiated a committee charged especially with the care of widows. The committee is responsible to visit, send cards of encouragement, remember birthdays, and to see that widows have transportation for shopping and doctors appointments. The committee also maintains a list of church members willing to help with house and car repairs. The church family is encouraged to invite widows to their homes for a meal and fellowship from time to time.

## Ohio Wins at AWANA Olympics

A girls' team from Cedar Hill Baptist of Cleveland and a Junior Varsity team from Abbe Road Baptist of Elyria were state champions in the 1991 AWANA Olympics in April.

Regional winners were: First Baptist, LaGrange; First Baptist, Willowick; Emmanuel Baptist, Toledo; Immanuel Baptist, Columbus; Calvary Baptist, Bellefontaine; Wheelersburg Baptist; Southgate Baptist, Springfield; Grace Baptist, Brunswick; Cedar Hill Baptist, Cleveland; Emmanuel Baptist, Toledo; Memorial Baptist, Columbus; Grace Baptist, Lima; Grace Baptist, Westerville; Calvary Baptist, Byesville; and Nottingham Baptist, Willoughby.



## And the Winner Is...

"It was great...a good experience for our church," said several pastors as they evaluated the results of the Second Annual Mid-Bethel Attendance Campaign. Eighteen churches in northwest Ohio participated in the campaign. The two teams, North and South, were captained by Pastor Harold "Gus" Guthrie of Calvary Baptist, Tiffin, and Pastor Joel Harriman of New Richland Baptist, Belle Center.

The nine churches of South took an early lead, and, although they faltered one week, maintained their lead. North got off to a slower start but strove valiantly to catch up. They consistently narrowed the lead, and the end totals were less than one point apart. Both teams did a fine job.

The contest emphasized attendance at Sunday school, morning and evening services. The churches tried, on each of the four Sundays from March 31 - April 21, to do better than their base figure (averages from the last six months of 1990). The percentage over their base was the number of "points" for that week.

The results are as follows: North—43.7 points; South—44.4 points. The Grand Champion was Calvary Baptist, Tiffin, which accumulated 140.7 points. Second place went to Meadowbrook Baptist, Lima (Pastor Ken Gentzler), and in third was Faith Baptist, Van Wert (Pastor Rick Shelley).

One interesting fact which came to light from our contest was that these 18 churches (the majority average fewer than 100 at a morning service) ministered to 5,728 people on each of those four Sundays. It is encouraging to know that when joined together we are "like a mighty army."

Reported by

Pastor Joel Harriman  
New Richland Baptist  
Belle Center

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